

Memorandum

Date: February 17, 2023

To: West Linn Historic Review Board

From: John Floyd, Associate Planner

Subject: 2023 CLG Grant Requests

The Certified Local Government (CLG) program offers matching grants to cities and counties that have been "certified" as historic preservation partners with both the state and the federal governments. These grants can be used for preservation projects, including National Register nominations, historic resource surveys, preservation education, preservation code development, building restoration, and preservation planning.

APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR 2023 ROUND: Submit by February 24, 2023 (11:59 pm).

CYCLE: The grant cycle is 17 months.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION: The City may request \$13,500-15,000. Awards will be adjusted based on the number of applicants and the amounts request. Awards will be in the range of \$13,500 - \$15,000. We can request up to \$15,000 to complete the work, but the grant award may be lower.

MATCH: SHPO encourages grantees to seek local funding and donations in addition to the grant request. Local support allows the program to assist more CLGs and shows community value of the project. Match can be in the form of cash, in-kind donations and volunteer time.

- A 1:1 match for funds requested is required for cities with population of 5000 or more and counties with population of 10,000 or more.

COWL GRANT REQUEST 1

The City is requesting CLG grant funds to host a hybrid workshop for West Linn property owners on ***"What is the National Register of Historic Places and Why Would Should I List My Historic Property?"***

The City is seeking to outreach to owners of historic homes to educate them on the benefits and process of listing their homes on the National Register. The goal is to identify interested property owners with whom the City could partner for pass-through grants to list properties on the National Historic Register.

In the early 2000s, the City completed selective reconnaissance-level surveys for several neighborhoods in the City: Bolton, Sunset, and Willamette. The surveys identified properties over 45 years of age. In 2009, the City completed a survey in the area around Buck Street, which evaluated 118 buildings. In 2010, the City completed reconnaissance-level surveys for structures over 50 years of age in the Bolton and Sunset neighborhoods.

Two areas of exclusively mid-century modern houses and a third area with early 20th-century houses were identified. Additionally, three other properties outside these neighborhoods were identified as potentially eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

In 2022, City staff had initial discussions with a commercial property owner about the Historic Register process. Additionally, the West Linn Historic Review Board has expressed a desire to outreach to eligible homeowners in the existing Willamette Historic District to opt into the National Historic District.

COWL GRANT REQUEST 2

The City is requesting CLG grant funds to seek National Historic Registration status for the McLean House.

The McLean House, located at 5350 River Street, is a 1927 colonial revival. The 4,500 sq ft house was built by Edward H. McLean, a Clackamas County doctor, on 4.5 acres of land he purchased from Hugh Burns. The City bought the McLean house in 1969.

McLean House is currently listed as a local landmark. For decades, the Friends of McLean House managed the house and gardens as a venue for weddings and other functions. In 2022, the Friends of McLean House disbanded and returned management of the resource to the City.

In 2022, the West Linn Historic Review Board discussed seeking a CLG grant to support and maintain the McLean House. Following the success of the Historic City Hall National Register listing, the City decided to pursue the listing for the McLean House to preserve and protect the resource.

The McLean House is significant due to its formal, symmetrical exterior and interior design, a prominent feature, and a beautiful example of its colonial architecture. The centered front porch is flanked by two stories of soldier windows standing at full attention. The garage on the east and the sunroom on the west jut out at two equal depths, creating a juxtaposition that softens the main house's rigidity while maintaining the symmetrical story. The whole structure is further softened by the graciously draped curve of the storybook roof, which is a rarity, especially in the Northwest. Together, these elements create a beautifully detailed English colonial-style home.